

REMARKS

This draft Amendment is being submitted in response to the Official Action dated 09 December 2008. Claim 1 is amended and claim 7 is canceled.

Applicant acknowledges and appreciates the time taken by the Examiner during the interview on Wednesday January 21, 2009. However, no agreement was reached and the Examiner maintains her rejections.

The Examiner objected to claim 7 and rejected it under 35 USC 112 for lack of antecedent and for failing to limit its parent claim. Claim 7 is canceled.

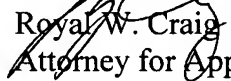
The Examiner now rejects all claims under 35 USC 103 as obvious over U.S. Patent 3,697,742 (Trim Ring For Architectural Light...) to Bobrick in view of U.S. Patent 4,800,239 (Decorative Switch Plate and Receptacle Wall Plate) to Hill. The Examiner contends that Bobrick shows a finishing ring (46) for a recessed lighting fixture lacking structural features, but Hill shows an accent frame having all the same structural features of in another context (a wall plate). Applicant disagrees. First of all Hill has nothing to do with recessed lighting fixtures, and Applicant maintains that this combination is improper. Notwithstanding this, the structural features reflected in Applicant's claim 1 fully distinguish it from the cited combination. Claim 1 literally requires the following element: "the accent frame has a convex inner edge defining an aperture having a lip for proper positioning with said cutout". The Examiner states that "Hill shows a convex inner edge and an annular lip of Hill are considered to have the same structure of the convex inner edge and the annular lip of the instant application." However, the accent frame of Hill is perfectly flat. There simply is no convex inner edge, nor any annular lip, and the Examiner gives Hill undue credit for teaching this. Applicant's slight convex curvature ensures contact with the surrounding wallboard when the inner edge is pressed against the wall, ceiling

or floor 30 by the finishing ring 53 [page 9, para 0001], and slightly flares away from the structure 30 to provide an aesthetically pleasing depth or texture to the frame.

Claim 1 is herein amended to more carefully describe the relative structure and orientation of Applicant's accent frame. It is believed that this more thoughtful recitation of the interrelated structure aids in distinguishing the cited combination, which is only superficially similar to the present invention but does not provide that which is claimed, and in fact is structured in such a way so as to be one of the few recessed ceiling light systems that is entirely incompatible with the present invention.

Considering these amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that neither Hill nor Bobrick disclose the element of the present invention. In view of the above, pending claims 1-4, 6, 9-11, 13 and 14 are believed to avoid all of the rejections set forth in the Official Action. It is believed that this application is now in the proper condition, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


Royal W. Craig
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 34,145

Royal W. Craig
Ober, Kaler, Grimes & Shriver
120 East Baltimore Street
Baltimore, MD 21202-1643
Telephone: (410) 685-1120